

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC 20436

April 6, 2005

TO: Interested Parties -- Commercial Availability Reviews

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SUBJECT: Commercial Availability Review on Certain Apparel of Coat Weight

Fabrics of Camel Hair, Cashmere, and of Wool Blends (Investigation No.

332-465-004)

The U.S. International Trade Commission has initiated a review to provide advice concerning a petition filed under the "commercial availability" provisions of the United States-Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA) on certain coat weight fabrics made of carded camel hair; carded cashmere; and blends of carded cashmere and wool. These fabrics, weighing between 335 and 400 grams per square meter, are suitable for the production of outerwear and are classified in HTS statistical reporting number 5111.19.6020.

The petition was filed on behalf of S. Rothschild & Co., Inc., New York, NY, by Neville Peterson LLP, and received by the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA) on March 30, 2005. The petition alleges that the fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner.

The Commission will conduct the review and provide advice under its investigation No. 332-465, Commercial Availability of Apparel Inputs (2005): Effect of Providing Preferential Treatment to Apparel Imported from Sub-Saharan African, Caribbean Basin, and Andean Countries, instituted at the request of the United States Trade Representative (USTR). The advice concerns the probable economic effect on U.S. producers, workers, and consumers of granting duty-free and quota-free treatment to apparel made in eligible countries from the specified fabrics, regardless of the source of the fabrics, should CITA determine that the fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. The Commission will submit its advice to USTR in a classified report by May 11, 2005, and issue a public version of it soon thereafter.

The Commission invites interested parties to submit written statements (original and 3

copies) concerning issues to be addressed by the Commission in this review by April 25, 2005. Information on procedures for submitting written statements to the Commission can be found in its notice of investigation, which was published in the *Federal Register* of January 26, 2005 (70 F.R. 3728) and posted on its website at http://www.usitc.gov/secretary/fed_reg_notices/332/332_465_institution01242005sgl.pdf.

Further information on this review can be obtained from Jackie W. Jones (202-205-3466); <u>jackie.jones@usitc.gov</u>. Information on the commercial availability investigation of the Commission can be obtained from its Program Managers (see above) and from its website at http://www.usitc.gov/ind_econ_ana/research_ana/pres_cong/332/short_supply/shortsu

http://www.usitc.gov/ind_econ_ana/research_ana/pres_cong/332/short_supply/shortsupintro.htm. Information on commercial availability requests is also available from the U.S. Department of Commerce, which chairs CITA, on the website of its Office of Textiles and Apparel at http://otexa.ita.doc.gov/CA.htm.